

26 February 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, R & E

Subject: Conversation with Admiral Foskett regarding the C.I.G.
Daily and Weekly Summaries
25X1A


Reference: Memo. by [REDACTED] 19 February 1947

1. In discussion with me today ^{25X1A} Admiral Foskett confirmed and amplified the comments reported in [REDACTED] memorandum.
2. Adm. Foskett delivers the Daily Summary to the President during the afternoon. Usually the President takes it with him on leaving his office and reads it during the evening. It serves as the basis of his discussion of foreign problems with Adm. Leahy the following morning.
3. The President considers that he personally originated the Daily, that it is prepared in accordance with his own specifications, that it is well done, and that in its present form it satisfies his requirements.
4. The President does not normally see any telegraphic material which anticipates or duplicates the coverage in the Daily. Adm. Foskett takes selected telegrams to him with the Daily in the afternoon and Adm. Leahy brings others in the morning, but these telegrams normally refer to matters not treated in the Daily (e.g., operational information).
5. The President reads the Daily, as marked by Adm. Foskett, before seeing Adm. Leahy. Although Adm. Foskett marks certain items as of particular interest, this is not intended to direct the President's attention exclusively to them. The President normally reads every item in the Daily with interest.
6. The marks seen on Adm. Leahy's copies are not for the President's guidance, but for the Admiral's own convenience in locating items to which he wishes to refer. Adm. Leahy seldom refers to reports indicating the development of situations previously discussed. (This would explain a tendency we have noted to mark marginal items instead of those reporting developments in apparently more important situations.) Nevertheless, the President desires to be kept informed of developments in important continuing situations.

7. Adm. Foskett considers that the Daily should not be too closely screened: within reasonable limitations of space, it is better to err on the side of being too inclusive than too exclusive. In addition to considerations which we have discussed, he points out that he and Adm. Leahy, both in immediate daily attendance on the President, normally differ in their selection of items to call to his particular attention, each with reason. (If such well-placed authorities differ, how shall we make an exactly perfect selection.) Reiterating that in neither case are their selections meant to be exclusive, he considers that we should provide them with a broad initial selection, provided that each item should be of potential interest to the President and that all together should not be so numerous as to overburden him.

8. Adm. Foskett was less definite with respect to the Weekly, although he complimented its new format. After delivering it to the President, he normally does not see or hear more of it, although he has heard some comment on particular items in it indicating that the President does actually read it. (By the marks on Adm. Leahy's copies we know that the Admiral has discussed certain Weekly articles with the President.) It appears that the Weekly in its present form is acceptable at the White House and is used to an undetermined extent without exciting comment indicative of a desire for any particular change. When I described the alternative under consideration, Adm. Foskett was unable to say that it would be preferable. He undertook, however, to inquire further into the subject.

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